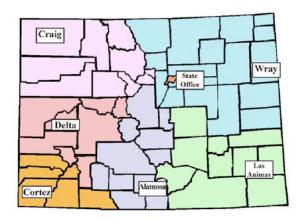
Contact Information

Area Offices, Energy Team Contacts and Phone Numbers



M. Dolores Sanchez-Maes— Business & Community Programs Director, Lakewood State Office, (720) 544-2927

Charles Thompson—Southwest Area Director, Alamosa Area Office, (719) 589-5661. ext. 4

Pattie Snidow—West Area Director, Delta Area Office, (970) 874-5735, ext. 4

Joe Kost - Southeast Area Director, Las Animas Area Office, (719) 456-0120, ext. 4

Cheryl Scofield - Northeast Area Director, Wray Area Office, (970) 332-3107, ext. 4

April Dahlager—Renewable Energy Coordinator, Lakewood State Office, (720) 544-2909

Committed to the Future of Rural Communities

For more information about Section 9007 visit:

www.usda.gov/farmbill



USDA Rural Development State Office

655 Parfet Street, Room E-100 Lakewood, CO 80215 Phone: (720) 544-2931 FAX: (720) 544-2972

Web site www.rurdev.usda.gov/co

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Committed to the future of rural communities.

Section 9007 Rural Energy for America Programs (REAP)





Funding is available each year for grants and guaranteed loans to assist rural small businesses and agricultural producers with renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

What is the Section 9007 program?

To foster rural economic development and growth, Congress passed the Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program as Section 9007 of the 2008 Farm Bill.

This program provides financial assistance to <u>rural small</u> <u>businesses and agricultural producers</u> to purchase renewable energy systems or make energy efficiency improvements.

USDA Rural Development administers the program through the Business—Cooperative Services Program staff.

The 2008 Farm Bill authorized funding for five years through 2012. In 2009, it is anticipated that up to \$55 million will be available through this program. A portion of the funding will be made available for grants.

The 9007 program is a national competition for funds. An announcement for application submission was made through a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) published in the Federal Register on May 26, 2009. The announcement can be viewed on line at: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-12178.pdf







What types of projects are eligible?

<u>Eligible renewable energy</u> projects include projects that produce energy from:

Wind Biomass Anaerobic Digester Solar Geothermal Hydrogen

The project can produce any form of energy, including heat, electricity, or fuel. *The minimum project size* for a renewable energy project is \$10,000.

<u>Eligible energy efficiency improvement</u> projects include improvements to a facility, building, or process that reduces energy consumption, such as retrofitting, lighting, insulation, and purchasing or replacing equipment and motors with more efficient units.

Projects must replace an existing item/object. *The minimum project size* for an energy efficiency project is \$6,000. Projects cannot involve residential use. Project purchases incurred <u>prior</u> to submitting an application are not eligible.

<u>Feasibility studies</u> for renewable energy systems are eligible for funding. The maximum grant amount is \$50,000 or no more than 25% of the eligible project costs.

For all projects:

- the system must be located in a rural area or community of less than 50,000 persons,
- must be technically feasible,

Grant - 25% of total eligible costs

- meet environmental requirements, and
- must be owned by the applicant.

How much assistance can be provided?

Grant 2070 of total eligible costs		
Guaranteed loan – up to 75% of total eligible costs		
	Renewable Energy	Energy Efficiency
Minimum grant	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,500
Maximum grant	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000
Minimum Guaranteed Loan	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Maximum Guaranteed Loan	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 25,000,000

Who is eligible?

The program is designed to assist <u>rural small</u> <u>businesses and agricultural producers</u>. Applicants applying for a grant must show financial need.

Rural small businesses must meet the definition of a small business according to SBA small business size standards. A link to the table of small business size standards is on the lowa RD website. A private entity including a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, cooperative and electric utility are eligible applicants. All other non-profit organizations and public bodies are not eligible applicants.

<u>Agricultural producers</u> must directly engage in production of agricultural products and at least 50% of gross income must be from the agriculture business.

There is a three-step process to reach the application templates and any other information you may need. Send the application (two copies) to the Rural Development State Office in Lakewood. Here are some helpful tips:

<u>Determine your eligibility</u>. If you have questions, contact the Rural Development Area Office to assist you.

Make the technical report a team effort. Your system installer or contractor should be able to provide most of the technical information required in the application. Be sure to follow the format in our technical report guidelines.

<u>If needed, ask for help</u> to complete an application. Contact your local area office representative (listed on back).

> Complete applications under this Notice must be received in the Colorado Lakewood USDA Rural Development State Office, 655 Parfet Street, Room E-100, Lakewood, CO 80215 no later than 4:30 PM MST on July 31, 2009.